

2007 East Kentucky Mine Emergency Response Drill

On behalf of the Office of Mine Safety and Licensing, I would like to thank those who participated in the 2007 East Kentucky Mine Emergency Response Drill (MERD). It was gratifying to see the mine rescue teams working together to rescue miners in the simulated exercises. I believe all who participated left the event better prepared to respond should Kentucky coal miners need help.

Special thanks to Sidney Coal Company for the use of Johns Creek Energy Mine to conduct the exercise. This exercise proved to be extremely beneficial for mine rescue personnel as it allowed them to work in an environment that modeled a mine explosion, enabled them to enhance rescue skills, and allowed federal, state, and industry rescue teams to work together to become better prepared should the need arise.

An exercise of this magnitude could not have been accomplished without the support of our state and federal government, the mining industry, and the business community. Twenty mine rescue teams participated during the week of April 23 - 27. The teams that participated are as follows:

Monday, April 23

Sidney Coal No. 1
Pikeville No. 1
Sidney No. 2
Barbourville OMSL No. 1

Tuesday, April 24

Perry Co. Coal No. 1
Hazard OMSL No. 1
ICG No. 1
Perry County No. 2

Wednesday, April 25

ICG No. 2
Martin OMSL No.1
Consol Coal Co.
Paramount Coal Co.

Thursday, April 26

Cardinal Mining
Madisonville OMSL No. 1
Bledsoe Coal No. 1
Highland Mining

Friday, April 27

Harlan OMSL No.1
Lone Mountain No. 1
Pikeville OMSL No. 2
Excel Coal No. 1

Thanks,
Johnny Greene
Executive Director OMSL